THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) U.S. President George W. Bush had expressed appreciation for Prime Minister's peace initiative towards Pakistan and acknowledged the problem of terrorism in that context. He also conveyed that he would raise the issue of cross-border infiltration and terrorism with President Musharraf at their Camp David meeting on June 24, 2003.

(b) President Bush stated on June 24,2003 that President Musharraf and he had discussed the need to address extremism and cross-border infiltration. In that context, he had also remarked that "we all must work together to fight off terrorists who would like to prevent a peaceful solution". The United State has stated that President Musharraf had given a commitment on a 100 per cent effort at trying to stop cross-border incidents. Government will assess the outcome of the commitment made by the President Musharraf by the evidence on the ground.

Cross-border infiltration

334. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief of Army Staff had met him on May 21, 2003 and briefed him on the prevailing security scenario in the Jammu and Kashmir State;

(b) if so, whether he was given the assessment of the situation in the backdrop of Pakistan's promises to curb cross-border infiltration;

(c) if so, whether there has been drop in cross-border infiltration; and

(d) tf not, what steps Government of India has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chief of the Army staff had met the Deputy Prime Minister on May 21, 2003 and briefed him on the prevailing security situation in J&K.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the inputs provided by the various agencies, there is no discernable drop in the "assessed infiltration".

(d) The Government, joinly with the State Government, has adopted a multi-pronged approach, to contain cross border terrorism perpetrated by the pro Pak terrorist outfits/Pak ISI in Jammu and Kashmir, which includes, *inter-alia,* strengthening border management and multi-tiered and multi-model deployment along with International Border/LoC and near the every changing infiltration routes to check infiltration, as well as other action against terrorists within J&K.

The counter infiltration efforts are reviewed from time to time.

Vishwa Hindi Sammelan in Surinaam

†335. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sixteenth "Vishwa Hindi Sammelan" was organised in Surinaam during June, 2003;

(b) the details of the Government officials, Hindi scholars and writers participated in it;

(c) the total amount spent by Government on the said 'Sammelan';

(d) the recommendations made in the said Sammelan for the progress and development of the Hindi language at world stage; and

(e) the steps propose to be taken by Government for the implementation of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.